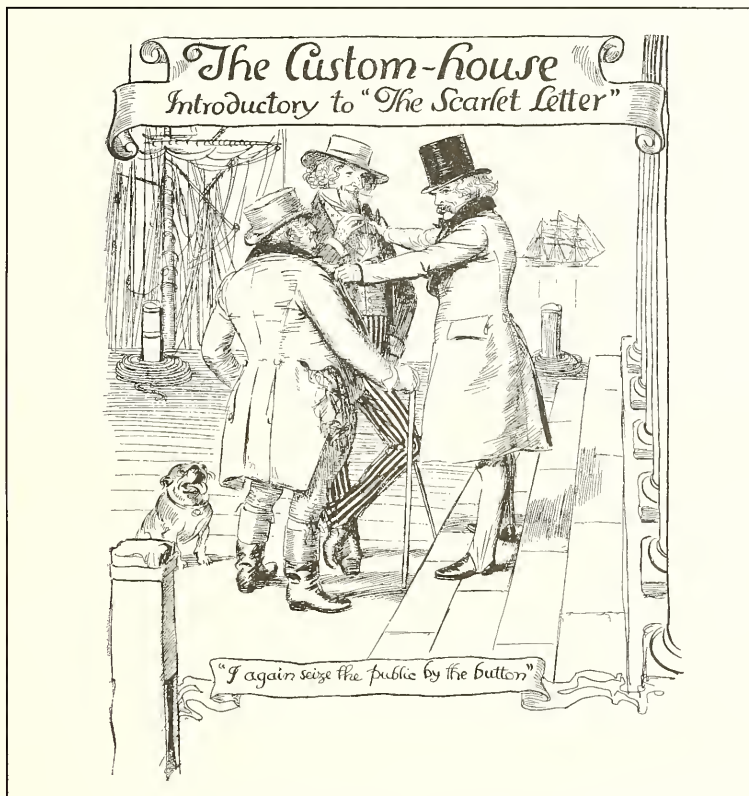


no extra copy, this was a special one

# The Flyleaf

Friends of Fondren Library Vol. 45 , Nos. 3 & 4

Spring & Summer 1995



Hot Summer Reading Tips



## A LETTER TO THE FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

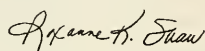
The Friends of Fondren Library had a very successful year beginning with the well-received program by Daniel Boorstin in September. In November we honored Henry Jackson for his contributions to the library. We had such an outstanding turnout for our Rice Author event in January that this program will be held in the Grand Hall next year. The Schubertiad continues to be popular.

It is my pleasure to announce the officers and directors for next year. Sally Reynolds will be our president and will be assisted by Susan Merriman, vice-president for membership; Joan Ryan, vice-president for programs; Bettie Carrell, vice-president for publications; Texas Anderson, Karen Rogers, and Oscar Graham, vice-presidents for special events; Oliver Pennington, secretary; and Ed Koehler, treasurer. The directors-at-large will be Walter Baker, Peggy Barnett, Betty Conner, Jan Domenico, David Elder, Susanne Glasscock,

Shirley Hamner, Diana Hobby, Dorothy Knox Houghton, Elizabeth Kidd, Charles Maynard, Mary Frances Monteith, Bill Pannill, Steve Shaper, and Kathryn Smyser. We thank Ron Blake for his time in tracking the membership.

I have enjoyed being your president these past two years. Fondren Library will be facing many challenges in the coming years and the Friends are poised to assist. With your help we can meet these challenges and move into the 21st century.

Sincerely yours,



Roxanne K. Shaw  
President

## FONDREN LIBRARY

Founded under the charter of the university dated May 18, 1891, the library was established in 1913. Its present building was dedicated November 4, 1949, and rededicated in 1969 after a substantial addition, both made possible by gifts of Ella F. Fondren, her children, and the Fondren Foundation and Trust as a tribute to Walter William Fondren. The library celebrated its half-millionth volume in 1965 and its one-millionth volume on April 22, 1979.

## THE FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY

The Friends of Fondren Library was founded in 1950 as an association of library supporters interested in increasing and making better known the resources of Fondren Library at Rice University. The Friends, through members' contributions and sponsorship of a program of memorials and honor gifts, secure gifts and bequests, and provide funds for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other materials that are needed to support teaching and research at the university.

## THE FLYLEAF

Founded October 1950 and published by the Friends of Fondren Library - MS - 44-F, Rice University, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77005-1892, *The Flyleaf* is a record of Fondren Library's and Friends activities, and of the generosity of the library's supporters. Beginning Fall 1995 *The Flyleaf's* publication schedule will correspond to the academic calendar year. Your next issue will be sent in October.



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**Cover photograph from Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*, illustrated by Hugh Thomson, New York, George H. Doran Company, 1850. See story on page 2.**

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Photographs by Bill Pannill and Paula Wirth

**Erratum** The congregation in the winter issue of *The Flyleaf* was mistakenly identified as Beth Israel Synagogue. It was Congregation Emanu El.

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# Literary Passions

## *Eight Good Reasons to Let Go*

By Elizabeth Hutcheson Carrell

I have long suspected that the civilized population of this country falls into two groups and that the difference between them forms the rough equivalent of a chasm. I am not speaking here of the distance between Democrats and Republicans, Keynesians and supply-siders, atheists and fundamentalists, or even the people who believe in UFOs and the people who don't. I am speaking of that sometimes turbulent gulf that separates readers from *rereaders*.

A reader can usually be identified a mile distant by a discerning *rereader* with a practiced eye. Readers carry themselves like warriors. At cocktail parties they fabricate deeply held opinions about current events and deliver them with an authority calculated to scare Newt Gingrich into silence. (Though he too is a reader.) In the privacy of their own homes they open Tom Clancy, John Grisham, and Danielle Steele with the same reverence the rest of us reserve for a first edition of Dickens. At the park they run a six-minute mile in a herd-like formation that encourages the exchange of terse monosyllabic sound bites. As a general proposition, *readers* tend to be young, aggressive, and fit.

I have been told by someone who jogs a nine-minute solitary mile and has long since grown accustomed to defeat that these people cull their literary choices from the *New York Times* best seller list and skip the reviews. Although I regard this as little more than bitter hearsay, it could be true.

If you're a Friend of Fondren and you're reading this article in *The Flyleaf*, the chances are very good that you are not young, aggressive, and fit, but that you are forty-something like me and that when it comes to literature you love what you love and you know it. Assert yourself. You are a *rereader* of old, previously owned books and Fondren Library is your definition of heaven. If these stacks are "dark and deep," so much the better for pursuing your illicit fascination with Jane Austen and D.H. Lawrence. They can't be dark enough.



Vronsky pleading with Anna

(Illustration by E. Boyd Smith for Leo Tolstoy, *The Complete Works of Leo N. Tolstoi* edited by Nathan Haskell Dole, New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1899.)

If by some chance you are not yet an accomplished *rereader*, here are eight good reasons to become one.

### 1. To recapture the enchantment of childhood.

It was a sad day — a very sad day — when my thirteen-year-old son told me that he no longer wanted to hear me read *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* out loud while he lifted weights and watched "The X-Files" over my shoulder. Bothered by schoolyard taunts (*His mom still reads to him! Get him!*), he suggested that I acknowledge my dependence on Grimm's Fairy Tales and stop using him as a hostage to meet my own emotional needs.

Here was a problem I could not fix. My youngest child had outgrown his need to hear fairy tales before the oldest had returned with the first set of grandchildren. As a result I found myself facing such a serious loss that I was forced



## Literary cont'd.

to cycle through the five stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, and acceptance) so quickly that I forgot one. In the end, I am happy to report that I *embraced* this hardship, put the Brothers Grimm on my nightstand where it belonged, and began the task of separating my childhood from his. Now whenever I need to reassure myself that everything works out over time, I reread *The Frog Prince* and reflect on the collective wisdom of these two brothers and their pre-Freudian perceptions on personality structure.

Unfortunately not all my childhood favorites remain easily accessible today. While an updated Nancy Drew is readily obtained and Thornton W. Burgess's little people of the Great Forest still wear waistcoats and carry walking sticks, other giants have become mere fashion victims, relegated to the back shelves of second-hand bookstores. (Just try finding a copy of *Cherry Ames, Flight Nurse*. It can't be done.)

In this vein nothing mystifies me more than the absolute disappearance of the famous dog books of Albert Payson Terhune. I was introduced to Terhune by my father, a man who loved animals and books in equal degrees, and radiated the kind of tenderness that I associate specifically with rereaders.

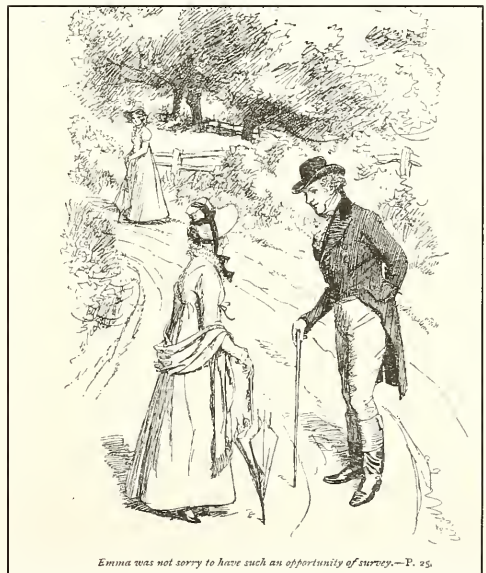
I remember *Lad, a Dog*, and *Wolf, a Study in Courage*, with particular warmth and would gladly recommend them to anyone in need of a good cry if only I could lay my hands on them or find a persistent dealer who could. For years I talked about Albert Payson Terhune while my friends yawned, gossiped, or studied the menu at our favorite Chinese restaurant as if they had never been there before.

The truth was I was the only person in the world who wondered what had happened to Albert Payson Terhune and his incredible dogs who had enriched my childhood beyond measure and turned me into a reading maniac with a dog fetish. Two years ago the *New York Times Book Review* ran an article titled "Ten Most Prominent Writers Name Formative Books." Three of the ten mentioned Albert Payson Terhune's dog books as a decisive childhood encounter that shaped their entire future development as writers. I saw that I was in good company after all and copied the article for all my rude friends who refused to listen to me when I tried to talk about Terhune's significance in literary culture.

If you can find your favorites from childhood it is a very good practice to go back and reread them whenever you can — though to achieve maximum benefits it's best to wait until you're sick and accessorize this ritual with a bowl of chicken noodle soup.

### 2. The first time you read an important book you got it confused with the person who taught it.

The first teacher to take me through *Pride and Prejudice* was a very cruel nun who headed the English department at the convent where I was incarcerated during some very impressionable years. In those days I didn't know that Darcy looked like Laurence Olivier, a fact she kept hidden from us because of her own ambivalence about men. She taught this book as a novel of manners instead of the sexually intense piece of work that it is. As a result I missed all of the good parts and thought the whole book hinged on whether or not Charles Bingley could be persuaded to give another ball at Netherfield Hall.

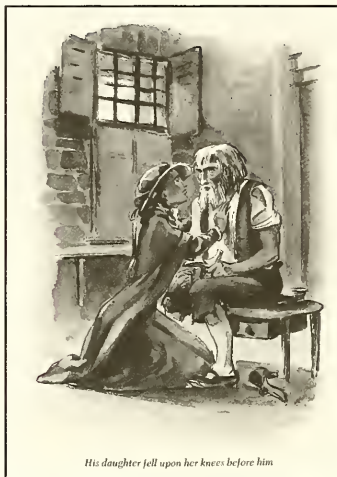


(Illustration by Hugh Thomson for Jane Austen, *Emma*, London, Macmillan and Co., Limited, 1910.)

## Literary cont'd.

It wasn't until much later, after I saw the movie and reread the book with Olivier in mind, that I understood it well enough to risk making the following observation: While Jane Austen may reign as the literary world's most celebrated spinster, Jane Austen is clearly no nun.

If you have a mean teacher in your background and if he or she accompanied you on your first excursions through Dickens, or Hardy, or George Eliot, it might be a good idea for you to go back and reread these writers over a glass of wine while you contemplate the freedom of staying up past your bedtime.



*His daughter fell upon her knees before him*

(Illustration by Raffaello Busoni for Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*, New York, Grosset & Dunlap, 1948.)

### 3. The first time you read a major book on your own you still managed to miss the central theme.

It is not at all uncommon for a reader to come to a book for the first time at thirty or even forty and still misinterpret the writer's intent. I had never read *Anna Karenina* until a bad case of flu forced me inside in my early thirties and the book looked just about as long as the predicted course of my illness. I read it, I thought I understood it, I even liked it a lot. But I didn't love it the way I love it now. That kind of passion came with my second or third reading when it suddenly dawned on me — "It's Levin, stupid."

Deceived by the book's title I had mistakenly assumed that Tolstoy was writing about Anna Karenina when he was really writing about himself. Konstantin Levin, rough, direct, honest as his bird dog Laska, and hopelessly strung out on his love for Kitty Scherbatsky is the book's true hero and it is in his resolution that we find the final resolution of the book. It's not important that I may be the only reader in the world who believes this. It is important that the book means roughly five times as much to me now as it did the first time I read it — which is another very good reason to reread.

### 4. You've finally lived long enough to understand Henry James.

A lot of good writing is about the pain of making bad choices and getting stuck with them. When you're a reader you're usually young enough to do something about them. By the time you're a rereader, it's usually too late.

Of all the writers who specialize in the cycle of disillusionment, acceptance, and transcendence, none can top Henry James for pure style. If you read him when you're too young and if you don't go back to him later, you'll never understand what all the fuss is about. But if you make a bad mistake, or a big one, and you discover that its life expectancy is roughly the same as your own, it is a very good idea to brew a cup of strong tea and reread these words from *Portrait of a Lady*:

*"Isabel took a drive alone that afternoon; she wished to be far away, under the sky, where she could descend from her carriage and tread upon the daisies. She had long before this taken old Rome into her confidence, for in a world of ruins the ruin of her happiness seemed a less unnatural catastrophe. She rested her weariness upon things that had crumbled for centuries and yet still were upright; she dropped her secret sadness into the silence of lonely places, where its very modern quality detached itself and grew objective, so that as she sat in a sun-warmed angle on a winter's day, or stood in a mouldy church to which no one came, she could almost smile at it and think of its smallness. Small it was, in the large Roman record, and her haunting sense of the continuity of the human lot easily carried her from the less to the greater. She had become deeply, tenderly acquainted with Rome; it interfused and moderated her passion. But she had grown to think of it chiefly as the place where people had suffered."*

## Literary cont'd.

Now *that's* a perspective worth waiting for. Let's say you just discovered that you are a poet who has spent his whole life posing as a C.P.A. You'd like to take off but you have four children in college and can't leave your job. At this point you can a.) make an appointment with a good therapist, b.) buy a one-way ticket to Rome, or c.) spend \$4.50 on the Penguin classic version of *Portrait of a Lady* and turn to page 564.

### 5. You've lived through so much that you need a reason to go on.

At its best literature functions pretty much like religion; that is to say it makes it possible for us to get out of bed and put one foot in front of the other and plod through the day and not give up — no matter how overwhelming our circumstances.

If my family deserts me, if I lose the job I don't have, if my best friends run me out of town on a rail, I hope I have the fortitude to crawl on my knees to the nearest library, check out *Dr. Zhivago*, and remind myself that these words were written in the darkest hours of Stalin's purges, when Pasternak's mistress had been exiled to a Siberian labor camp in an effort to bring him to terms:

*The night was full of quiet, mysterious sounds. Next to him, inside the passage, water dripped from the washbasin regularly and slowly. Somewhere outside the window people were whispering. Somewhere in the vegetable patch they were watering cucumber beds, clanking the chain of the well as they drew the water and poured it from pail to pail.*

*All the flowers smelled at once; it was as if the earth, unconscious all day long, were now waking to their fragrance. And from the Countess's centuries-old garden, so littered with fallen branches that it was impenetrable, the dusty aroma of old linden trees coming into bloom drifted in a huge wave as tall as a house.*

*...An enormous crimson moon rose behind the crows' nest in the Countess's garden. At first it was the color of the new brick mill in Zibushino, then it turned yellow like the water tower at Biriuchi.*

*And just under the window, the smell of new-mown hay, as perfumed as jasmine tea, mixed with that of belladonna....*

*Everything was fermenting, growing, rising with the magic yeast of life. The joy of living, like a gentle wind, swept in a broad surge indiscriminately through fields and towns, through walls and fences,*

*through wood and flesh. Not to be overwhelmed by this tidal wave, Yurii Andreievich went out into the square to listen to the speeches.*

Poetic sentiment? Probably. But isn't it astonishing to observe that it is "the joy of living" that presides over the spirit of this embattled writer and to reflect on the fact that, even as he listens for the two a.m. knock at the door, Pasternak delivers prose "as tall as a house."

### 6. To prove the critics don't own you.

After a certain point it's okay to have your own tastes in rereading and not allow yourself to be bullied into preferring the critic's choice over your own. Everyone knows that *Emma* is considered superior to *Pride and Prejudice*, that *Portrait of a Lady* doesn't hold a candle to *The Golden Bowl*, that *Adam Bede* is juvenilia when compared to *Middlemarch*, and so on. So what? The truth is that in every instance I prefer the inferior work and that if anyone composed bumper stickers to that effect I'd display them on my Toyota with pride. Why not? I may not be as smart as the critics, but when it comes to rereading the important thing is to follow your heart not your head. That's the kind of distinction that makes rereading worthwhile.



(Illustration by Rafaello Busoni for Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*, New York, Grosset & Dunlap, 1948.)



## Literary cont'd.

### 7. To feel safe.

The people who know about these things claim that the repetition of any ritual represents an effort to ward off external threats and create a safe and familiar psychic space where we feel temporarily invulnerable. My father, a voluminous reader, reread three books without fail every year: *Walden*, *Moby Dick*, and *Death in the Afternoon*. I suspect that in a household where he was outnumbered by females four to one, these exclusively male universes provided him with a safe place where he could do the emotional equivalent of drum-beating without finding himself nagged for making so much noise.

Whatever the case, I have followed his example and developed my own list of "safe" books where I regularly retreat when I imagine (like Ishmael) that there "is a damp, drizzly November in my soul."

### 8. The pleasure principle.

An Edwardian critic once made the following observation on Jane Austen's novels: "While twelve readings of *Pride and Prejudice* give you twelve periods of pleasure repeated, as many

readings of *Emma* give you that pleasure, not repeated only, but squared and squared again with each perusal, till at every fresh reading you feel anew that you never understood anything like the widening sum of its delights."

That is one of the curious things about *rereading*. With a good book the pleasure is always progressive. Every time you reread it your experience is deepened, your understanding of the novel increases, and the aesthetic payoff is bigger than it was before. So convinced am I of the truth of that theory that I use it as my test to distinguish between books that are merely books and books that are truly classics. A great book demands a second reading and grows with the third, the fourth, and the fifth.

In conclusion, let me suggest that if we choose our writers wisely we will eventually experience something of the pleasure that William Dean Howells reported when, at mid-life, he began to read and then *reread* Turgenev:

*It was like finding a happiness I had been looking for my whole life and once it had come I was richly content forever.*

---

### What to Read, How to Find It

If you're an authentic *rereader* you probably prefer old editions to new ones. If you're a Friend of Fondren you can use your library card to locate and borrow the oldest, most tattered, and most heroic looking volumes in town, which are definitely to be preferred over both paperbacks and elegant hardbacks. Remember — you want the volume that looks like it's been dipped in Galveston Bay and left on the roadside to dry. But it can't smell like the out of doors. It's got to smell like a century of compressed thought. (Fondren Library has acquired that smell over time, even though as libraries go, it's still pretty new.)

Tear stains on the final page means the book has passed through sensitive hands. Age spots, wine stains, and missing pages are also good signs. I love illustrated versions with a piece of the dialogue inserted as a caption — especially if the dialogue is utterly undistinguished, as in " 'I cannot pretend to be sorry,' said Wickham." I don't like sets, but sometimes you'll have to settle for collected works, even at Fondren Library.

Excluding the Bible, the New Oxford English Dictionary, and my favorite literary soaps (*Buddenbrooks*, *The Forsyte Saga*), here are the ten books I would have to take with me to sea in case there was a terrible storm and I ended up marooned on a desert island for the rest of my life. I have inserted the call number of the most desirable edition at Fondren Library, though in at least one instance that meant settling for a Modern Library version with a little age on it. One word of caution: I'm sure the library staff would rather you did not check these out for the remainder of your life.

#### *Desert Island Long List*

1. Henry Adams, *The Education of Henry Adams*. Houghton Mifflin (1918). E 175.5 A 17426 1918.
2. Leo Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*. Thomas Crowell (1899). PG 3366 A11899, Vol. 3 and 4.
3. Boris Pasternak, *Dr. Zhivago*. Pantheon (1958). PG 3476.P 27.D 63.
4. Henry James, *The Portrait of a Lady*. Charles Scribners (1922). PS 2110 1907 Vol. 3.



## Literary cont'd.

5. Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*. London: Richard Bentley and Son (1885). PR 4034 P 7 1885.
6. Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*. Modern Library. PS 3515 E37.S 8 1930.
7. F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*. PS 3511 E 37 S 8 1930.
8. D. H. Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers*. London: Wm. Heinemann Ltd. PR 6023 A 93 S6 1913.
9. Graham Greene, *The Heart of the Matter*. Viking Press. PR 6013 .R44 H4 1948.
10. Evelyn Waugh, *Brideshead Revisited*. PR 6013. A 5 F 56 1933.

### Desert Island Short Lists

Selected by the Board, Friends, and Friends of Friends.

#### Texas Anderson:

*Holy Bible, King James Version*  
*The Complete Shakespeare*  
Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*  
Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*

#### Malcolm Gillis:

Miguel Cervantes, *Don Quixote*  
Vladimir Nabokov, *Invitation of a Bezar*  
Homer, *The Odyssey*  
Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *Cien Años de Soledad*  
Arthur C. Clarke, *Childhood's End*

#### Robert Patten:

Assumes that the Bible and works by Shakespeare have been cast up on the sands.  
*The Complete Works of Robert Browning*  
James Joyce, *Finnegan's Wake*  
Dante, *Divine Comedy*  
*The Collected Works of the Greek Tragedians*  
An illustrated history of art

If the island is not managed by Club Med:

*How to Cook Seafood 10,000 Ways*  
*Gray's Anatomy*  
*Herbal Medicine*  
*A Handbook of Crafts*  
*U.S. Navy Handbook on Celestial Navigation*

#### Charlie Perlitz (peripatetic Rhodes Scholar):

Edward Gibbon, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*  
David Halberstam, *The Best and the Brightest*  
Henry Adams, *Education of Henry Adams*

Rebecca West, *The Meaning of Treason and The New Meaning of Treason*  
Evelyn Waugh, *Brideshead Revisited*

#### Sally Reynolds:

Ima Gardener, *How to Grow Your Own Bananas*  
Helen Gurley Brown, *Sex and the Single Girl*  
*Grimm's Fairy Tales*  
Lewis Carroll, *Through the Looking Glass*

#### Karen Rogers:

Larry McMurtry, *Lonesome Dove and Streets of Laredo*  
Charles Dickens, *Dombey and Son*  
Tolstoy, *War and Peace*

#### Joan Ryan:

Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*  
*The Letters and Essays of E.B. White*  
*The Complete Works of Flannery O'Connor*  
John Fowles, *The Magus*  
Anne Tyler, *The Accidental Tourist*  
Thurber, *Family Album*

#### Roxanne Shaw:

*Collected Works of Trollope*  
*Collected Works of Shakespeare*  
Jane Austen, *Emma*  
John Le Carré, *Little Drummer Girl*  
Winston Churchill, *History of the English Speaking Peoples*

#### Bill Pannill:

Gibbon, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*  
Boswell, *The Life of Samuel Johnson*  
Homer, *The Iliad*  
Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*  
Walt Kelly, *The Collected Pogo*

#### Elizabeth Kidd:

Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*  
Joyce, *Finnegan's Wake*  
Marcel Proust, *Remembrance of Things Past*  
*The Collected Shakespeare*  
David Malouf, *Remembering Babylon*  
Gibbon, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*  
Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*  
Alexis De Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*

# Woodrow Wilson's Influence on Edgar Odell Lovett

by Karen Hess Rogers

**W**e need for the head of the institution the very best man.... We need a young man, a broad man and we need him at once; and we are able to pay him. So reads the letter sent by the Rice trustees in 1907 to twenty five individuals and institutions asking for recommendations for the president of the new school.

One of the recipients of the letter was Woodrow Wilson, then president of Princeton, who proposed a young Princeton professor, Edgar Odell Lovett, then head of the astronomy department. He writes to Dr. Lovett that he has recommended him, adding that it might be "an opportunity to do a very great service to the South." Unfortunately, Wilson's letter to the trustees has been lost but it must have been glowing because on November 20, 1907, the Rice board unanimously selected Edgar Odell Lovett as the first president of The Rice Institute.

Woodrow Wilson's ideas about higher education had a great impact on Dr. Lovett. The young professor's admiration is evident when he writes, "You know how boisterously I have rejoiced in the things that you are bringing to pass in this place." In his letter of resignation to Wilson he says the challenges of opening a new university "offer unusual opportunity to translate into action the inspiration received under your tutelage.... I am leaving Princeton a Princeton man, firmly believing that whatever training I may have achieved here can be devoted to [developing] in another environment those spiritual and intellectual ideas...which have made Princeton conspicuous in the nation's service."

To evaluate Wilson's specific influences on Dr. Lovett, it is necessary to look at his career at Princeton and at some of his successes and failures. Wilson was elected president of Princeton in 1902, the first layman in a long line of clergy. Throughout the eight years he was president, it was his supreme ambition to exalt the intellectual life of the university community. He did not believe that the university existed for the purpose



Edgar Odell Lovett, first president of The Rice Institute, 1908-1946

of teaching men how to make a living; rather it should teach students the impartial truths of science, philosophy and literature.

In 1905, Wilson introduced a new method of teaching designed to restore the close personal relationship between professors and students which had existed before the rapid growth of the undergraduate population. He called the experiment the Preceptorial System. Princeton added to its faculty, all at one time, forty-seven preceptors to allow for the formation of small discussion groups outside of the large lecture. As one might expect, this was a costly undertaking that few institutions could afford to duplicate.

However, a prerequisite to establishing the Preceptorial System was the reorganization of the university curriculum into departments and then these departments, into larger divisions. With this curricular reorganization, the undergraduate course of study was then arranged so that a student selected a concentrated field of study after his sophomore year--in other words, a major. In

## Wilson cont'd.

collegiate circles this had a more profound influence than did the Preceptorial System. Harvard followed the lead in 1910; Yale, soon after. In 1912, Dr. Lovett discusses the four years required for a B.A. degree at Rice: "The first two years [a] considerable part of the work [is] prescribed. During the last two years the student is allowed with certain restrictions to select the subjects he studies."

Another enthusiasm that Wilson and Lovett shared, which they both experienced first as graduate students at the University of Virginia, was the Honor System. In the *Book of the Opening* Dr. Lovett describes the Honor System as "nothing novel to American institutions" and traces its progress from Virginia to Princeton to Rice.

It is ironic that one of Wilson's greatest innovations in college life has been more fully realized at Rice than at Princeton: the residential college system. In 1906, the year before Dr. Lovett was offered the job at Rice, Wilson recommended dividing the Princeton student body into colleges (called quadrangles) where the young men would live and work together. He met stiff opposition to this plan from alumni and students because they felt (probably correctly) that this plan threatened the existence of the popular eating clubs.

At one time the clubs had served the useful purpose of providing boarding facilities for upper-classmen, but by the turn of the century, they had evolved into bastions of elitism for two-thirds of the upper class population. Wilson believed that they separated the social and intellectual interests of the students, claimed more loyalty than did the university as a whole, and separated freshmen and sophomores from juniors and seniors.

The faculty supported his plan; on September 26, 1907, they voted 80 - 23 in favor (Dr. Lovett was one of the 80). However, the Princeton trustees, in the face of great hostility from alumni, withdrew their approval of the plan in October and Wilson's unsuccessful struggle to implement the "Quad System" was eventually one factor forcing his resignation from Princeton.

In beginning a new school, Dr. Lovett saw the "freedom from traditions" as a great asset, especially in organizing student life. He recognized a way to translate into action Wilson's "proposed adaptation of the English residential college system to American undergraduate life." He insisted that

"there is nothing unusual in insisting that the spirit of one's college is democratic -- the only difference is that we do have it." He was firmly committed to the establishment of residential colleges at Rice and finally, in March, 1957, they became a reality. Dr. Lovett caught but a glimpse of them before he died in August of that year.

His vision in 1912 of a college where "men live in freedom, checked only by self mastery and gentle manners...here they grow in wisdom, not alone in the wisdom of books but also in the wisdom of work and service" has been fulfilled but with a few variations. Dr. Lovett would undoubtedly be surprised to find women residing in all eight colleges. The beer/bike races were probably not part of his plan either. But he would hopefully rejoice in "the warm comradeship and joyous companionship of college years, the unconquerable enthusiasm" where "the only passports are intellect and character" that exist in the Rice residential colleges in 1995.

Princeton now has a two-year residential college system for freshmen and sophomores. Most upper class students still join eating clubs. They do accept women now.



Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton, 1903  
(Woodrow Wilson Collection, Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Division of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Libraries)

## Friends' Gala a Success

On April 1, some 250 guests gathered in the Rice Memorial Center to honor Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin N. Woodson for their contributions to Rice University and Fondren Library. The evening coincided with their twelfth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Woodson, while actively serving on the Board of Governors, made a donation to the campaign of the Graduate Research Addition to Fondren Library which resulted in the Woodson Research Center. The center, dedicated in 1968, houses the rare book collection and the University archives. A founding member of the Council of Overseers of the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business Administration, Ben Woodson is now an Overseer Emeritus and continues to serve as a Governor Advisor to the University.

The guests met in the foyer to bid on the silent auction which was assembled by Jan Domencio. A framed map of the Republic of Texas, autographed books, dinners, plays, portraits, and even a Persian rug were in the offering. Autographed sneakers owned by World Champion Houston Rockets player Hakeem Olajuwon; an autographed bat, ball and Houston Astros cap owned by the National League's Most Valuable Player Jeff Bagwell; a champagne reception hosted by and at the Northern Trust Bank of Texas with special guest William Cannady, architect and designer of the building; a tour of the Houston Chronicle conducted by Richard Johnson, President and CEO, were some of the items auctioned by the ever popular Bucky Allshouse.

When the bell chimed for dinner, the doors to the Grand Hall were opened and the guests entered a beautiful hall decorated by Texas Anderson and Elizabeth Kidd. Sammy's did a wonderful job in catering the dinner.

Roxanne Shaw, president of the Friends of Fondren Library, welcomed the Woodsons to the 15th Annual Fondren Saturday Night. She thanked Karen Rogers, gala chairman, and her committee for a successful event. Oliver Pennington, underwriting chair, "will be unable to retire because of his success." The gala raised over \$90,000 for the Friends Endowment Fund. Sally Reynolds served as advisory chairman.



Karen Rogers, Ben Woodson, Audrey Woodson, and Sally Reynolds

President Malcolm Gillis spoke on Mr. Woodson's involvement at Rice and introduced Oscar Newton who shared some of his remembrances of Mr. Woodson. As it turned out, Mr. Newton and President Gillis were born in the same town of Dothan, Alabama.

Among those attending were Mary Woodson Crowell, Tracy and John Dennis, Mimi and Robert Dennis, Mickey Herskowitz, Polly and Andrew Delaney, Pamela and Robert Heineman, Judy and John Cook, Cynthia and John Adkins, Mary Lou and John Margrave, and Linda King and Les Allison.

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Roxanne Shaw with Olajuwon's sneaker

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# Address by Baker Institute Director Closes Out Year

by Elizabeth Hutcheson Carrell

The annual meeting of the Friends of Fondren was held on May 24 at the Ley Center. Roxanne Shaw, President of the Friends of Fondren, reviewed the year's events and highlighted next year's calendar before turning over her office to Sally Reynolds.

The 1995 Friends of Fondren Gala honoring Ben Woodson generated \$90,000 in funds for the endowment. Roxanne thanked Karen Rogers for providing the leadership which made the evening such a resounding success. Sally Reynolds expressed the Board's appreciation to Roxanne for completing two years as President, a term which saw the Friends' participation level increase to 1,384 members.

Edward Djerejian, Director of the Baker Institute, delivered the evening's address: *United States Policy Towards Islam and the Arc of Crisis*.

A former Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Ambassador Djerejian emphasized the need to develop a coherent policy framework for addressing the Muslim challenge that has erupted in the geographical belt extending from the Balkans, through the Caucasus, North Africa, the Middle East and Central and South Asia.

In every instance, Ambassador Djerejian argued, Muslims are asserting their identity either against other Muslims or against non-Muslim regimes. The religious, ethnic, and cultural considerations are manifold, requiring a complex response that goes beyond the old bi-polar models developed during the Cold War.

Moreover, there must be no illusions as to the critical strategic importance of this region to the United States. Vital oil reserves are at stake, resources that must remain accessible to American investment and production.

Mr. Djerejian insisted that the CIA must move quickly to reinforce our historical understanding of this highly volatile region, where violence and intolerance tend to undermine coherent policy and threaten world peace.



Charles Maynard, Texas Anderson, and Edward Djerejian

The Foreign Service too must concentrate on developing credible expertise within the arc of crisis, emphasizing language skills and developing cultural sensitivity towards a region that was neglected during the Cold War period.

Wherever possible, Mr. Djerejian urged, the U.S. must work constructively with moderate Islamic governments, broaden the opportunities for democracy, promote the growth of a viable middle class, and encourage privatization.

Taking note of the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr. Djerejian concluded his remarks by focusing on the critical religious questions involved. At every opportunity, he argued, we must promote an interfaith dialogue between Christians, Muslims, and Jews. Religion, he observed, can be an obstacle to achieving peace or, in the end, the means through which peace is finally achieved.

Above all, Mr. Djerejian stressed, the times call for "preventive diplomacy," grounded in a thorough understanding of the cultural elements at work, originating in an awareness of the critical strategic importance of this region to our interests and the interests of a peaceful and stable world.



## Meeting cont'd.



Bettie Carrell and Roxanne Shaw



Lee and Glenn Seureau



Julie Itz, Sally Reynolds and David Itz



Mr. and Mrs. James Murphy and  
Mr. and Mrs. William Shiffick

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## News and Notes....

- **Friends to Honor Authors on January 31, 1996**  
The Friends of Fondren will honor members of the Friends, Rice faculty, staff, and alumni who had books published in 1995. Information can be sent to the Friends' office.

Rice University  
Friends of Fondren Library MS 44-F  
6100 Main Street  
Houston TX 77005-1892

- **Friends to Hold Book Sale** The Friends' booksale will be held on February 3 and 4, 1996. The members' preview will be held on Friday, February 2. Books may be delivered to Star Motors, 7000 Old Katy Rd. Porters are available to help unload cars.





**February 1, 1995 - May 31, 1995**

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**February 1, 1995 -  
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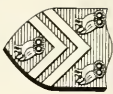
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